

CORRESPONDENCE

CENSUS OF PRIVATE MAMMAL COLLECTIONS

Editor Journal of Mammalogy:

There is an undeniable scarcity of private mammal collections in this country, and it seems to me that the Journal, as well as the active members of the Society, should endeavor to increase the interest along this line. For one thing, it is conceded that the enthusiasm of most earnest workers in zoology was first stimulated by starting "a collection." Those of us who are not so fortunate as to be located near some large museum must, to a great extent, depend upon our private collections as a basis for any systematic work which we wish to do. If a person desires to work on a certain genus or order, it is advisable to secure, by exchange or purchase, specimens from different parts of the country, but he will usually find it difficult to get in touch with other collectors who are in a position to furnish the material desired.

With these facts in view, I suggest that a census be taken of the private mammal collections of North America, and a summary of the information gathered could then be published in the Journal. If this plan meets with your approval, I should be only too willing to act as compiler. The value of such a list depends upon its completeness, so *everyone* with a private collection of mammals, even though it be but a small one, should send in full information as to its size, territory covered, special interests, et cetera.

Yours truly,

A. B. Howell.

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Pasadena, California.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED TOWARD THE PUBLICATION OF "THE COMPARATIVE
OSTEOLOGY OF THE PROCYONIDÆ"

Editor Journal of Mammalogy:

My letter published in the Journal of Mammalogy (Vol. 1, No. 4, August, 1920) on the question of raising the funds to publish the above mentioned work needs no comment. The amount to be raised will be somewhere between \$1000 and \$1300, and the following sums have been either pledged or sent for the purpose.

1. The Elizabeth Thompson Fund of Harvard University	\$200.00
2. George T. Welch, M.D., Passaic, New Jersey	6.00
3. H. J. Boldt, M.D., New York City, N. Y.	2.00
4. A. B. Howell, Esqr., Pasadena, California	2.00
5. Mrs. Anna Botsford Comstock, Ithaca, New York	2.00
6. E. Gordon Alexander, Esqr., Lexington, Mo.	2.00
7. Prof. Glover M. Allen	2.00
8. E. B. Trescott, Petaluma, Cal	2.00
9. Prof. Davidson Black, Peking, China	4.00
10. Dr. H. H. T. Jackson, Washington, D. C.	2.00

Very truly,

R. W. Shufeldt.